

# DISTRICT 3 MONTHLY MEETING 7/15/22

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MEETING STARTED AT 7:05PM

Meeting opened with The Serenity Prayer & The GSR Preamble

Secretary's Report Accepted

## GROUP REPORTS

**SOS** – Meeting Saturdays 8am hybrid/call-in. Things pretty much the same. Looking to do more service. Care of the shared speaker for meetings is being handled by one individual. In need of a treasurer, all other positions filled. Meeting is healthy. Attendance approx. 12 in person, 10 on the phone,

**Southern Berkshire Group** – No major changes. Held elections last month, all positions filled. Experiencing some growing pains, volatility in business meeting due to clashing personalities surrounding meeting format (i.e., hybrid vs in person meetings); losing group members, possibly due to this ongoing debate. Considering a group inventory as part of an effort to resolve the issue.

**Great Barrington Men's Group** – Meeting Thursday at 7-8:15pm. Picnic planned for 8/21/22 12-5pm at Sheffield Town Park – grilling and games; followed by an open meeting 5-6pm. Please spread the word. Passing the basket twice at meetings to pay for the event. Financials are in order. Have a new Chair, attracting new and younger people.

**Men's 12<sup>th</sup> Step** – Tues at 6:30pm Meeting going well, approx 30-40 in attendance. Used meeting time recently to review the Sponsorship Pamphlet as the group “strongly encourages” sponsorship. Previously voted to do this twice annually.

**Northern Berkshire Group** – Meeting in Williamstown Sun (Speaker/Discussion) and Tues (Double Speaker) at 7:30pm. Service positions filled except for an Intergroup Rep. Made another contribution to the pie chart, attendance and contributions are up. The Meeting Guide App is helping people find this meeting.

**Berkshire Big Book** – Meeting Wed 7-9:30pm in Cheshire. Getting up and running, filling positions, picking up in attendance.

**Bushwhacker's** – Meeting Fridays at 7pm. New GSR.

## INVITED COMMITTEES

**Berkshire Intergroup** –

- One day retreat is scheduled for Sat 9/24 10am – 4/5pm at Christ Trinity in Sheffield. Focus is on the 11<sup>th</sup> Step. Pre-registration will be required. More information will be forthcoming.
- 11/6 at 1pm showing *Bill W.* at Images in Williamstown. Vax and masks req.
- In good financial shape, getting 7-8 reps at meetings, 36 calls in last month to the hotline. Meeting List now directs to Area's website. Newsletter has about 140 recipients.

## DCM REPORT

- Attended Area meeting Wednesday 7/13
- Area registrar is asking that groups that meet online and have no plans to return in person update their status to be an online group. We only have 2 registered online groups in our area. There may be as many as 31 such groups
- Archives located a document in storage from the first Pittsfield AA meeting. The group wrote the AA Foundation (our name at the time) in 1945 to report that the first group was starting with 3 members and several prospects. They were receiving support from Albany and from Springfield. No mention of a group name is given, but it would supercede our current oldest group (Central Berkshire) by 10 years.
- Invited committees (anyone can attend or join. All groups are encouraged to send a representative to each committee.)
- Accessibilities continues to develop the accessibility checklist. They started an in person commitment to a homebound individual. They assisted another individual who is low-literacy by providing audio tapes of our big book.
- Archives committee reports working on an interview format for oldtimers to build up our history
- CPC is back to doing interactive presentations. They are working with Elms college and also are planning a presentation to the Emergency Nurses Group of Palmer
- Grapevine reports that the Grapevine store is being reworked. There is also a new app in development and should be ready in about a year. They produced a video that explains the group's Grapevine rep's role. The Grapevine is looking for stories on making amends with a submission deadline of 8/15
- PI continues to plan for our radio show which has been restarted as a new program airing on 94.7 on Sunday at 5am. New format is more of an interview than just giving your story. Open to all AA members. Studio time is limited to Tu-Thu 1-4pm
- Institutions has a huge surplus of books. If you put on a commitment, you are welcome to literature regardless of whether the commitment is through the Institutions committee or not. Attend the meeting to receive literature.
- Western MA Intergroup will be having their annual picnic 8/28 from 11am-5pm at the Moose Lodge in Chicopee on Fuller Rd. There will be a band, DJ, bounce house, face painting, raffles, and cheap food.

- The MA State Convention will be 11/11-11/13. Next planning committee meeting is 7/26. Carpool with Tom from Pittsfield or with Steve from Chicopee. Ask Tom or Steve for details
- New GSR presentation is available - abbreviated from what we did in January
- Area will be doing a Service Commitment to Southern Berkshire on 8/12 at 8pm during regular meeting
- New Business was what to do with the Area's Surplus of money. No motion was made, but discussion was encouraged at the meeting and until the next area meeting. The Area has operating funds of \$28,500 and a prudent reserve of \$8500, totaling about \$37k.
- Our district's budget was misrepresented as \$300 instead of \$800, but it was merely a typo and no motion was needed to fix it.

**DISCUSSION** – Acknowledged that Area has a surplus of money as expenses have been low the previous 2 years. Possible ways in which the money might be used:

- Supporting in full the Delegate's travel expenses
- Increasing support of NERASSA travel expenses
- Technology
- Subsidize conventions and round-ups (both have their own funds)

## AREA

- Rooms at the MASS State Convention in Sturbridge are available for \$127/night. Sleeps up to 4. Committee asks that you reserve directly through the hotel so that we qualify for their group rate.
- Steve has made a new GSR Presentation available – interested parties should reach out.

## OLD BUSINESS

- Co-DCM and LCM positions remain open, no one stood for either position.
- Mention of splitting up the District

## NEW BUSINESS

- Event Planning for December
- Considering an event similar to large scale area service commitment meeting
- Looking to form an ad hoc committee

**MEETING CLOSED** at 7:52 with the Responsibility Pledge